William C. Morris YA Debut Award Winners (Comprehensive List)

Honors a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens and celebrating impressive new voices in young adult literature.

YEAR	BOOK COVER	
2020	TOT ARE THE FLUNNIES SWITTERS. SMARTES CHARACTER THE VEY YOUR EASY. "SO SOOK JOIN A ANGELO SIGNED AND A ANGELO SIGNED ANGELO	THE Aut Cal Nor tries
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VEAD BOOK COVED

TITLE, CALL NUMBER & BRIEF DESCRIPTION

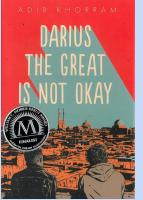
IE FIELD GUIDE TO THE NORTH AMERICAN TEENAGER

Author: Ben Philippe

Call Number: Available as Audiobook on Hoopla

Norris Kaplan, a Black French-Canadian teen, moves to Austin, Texas and ries to survive American high school life by notating his observations, most of which are based on clichés from U.S. movies and television shows. However, as he gets to know the so-called jocks, cheerleaders, loner, and Manic Pixie Dream Girl better, the hilarious but cynical Norris slowly realizes hat he shouldn't judge others based on labels and first impressions.





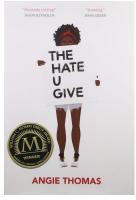
DARIUS THE GREAT IS NOT OKAY

Author: Adib Khorram

Call Number: <u>INTERLIBRARY LOAN</u>

Marked by depression and high school unpleasantness, Darius' lackluster existence takes an unexpected turn when he travels to Iran to meet his grandparents for the first time. There, a meaningful friendship opens up new possibilities to Darius, whose sensitive soul-searching will resonate with many teens.

2018



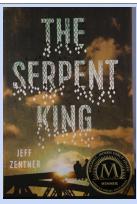
THE HATE U GIVE

Author: Angie Thomas

Call Number: YA F THOMAS

Starr Carter has learned to live in two worlds, managing her life as a prep-school student by day while returning each night to the low-income neighborhood she calls home. After witnessing the murder of her unarmed friend Khalil by a police officer, these two worlds collide, and Starr must decide what risks she is willing to take to pursue justice.



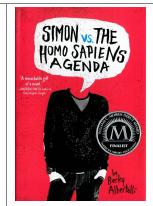


THE SERPENT KING

Author: Jeff Zentner

Call Number: YA F ZENTNER

The son of a Pentecostal preacher faces his personal demons as he and his two outcast friends try to make it through their senior year of high school in rural Forrestville, Tennessee, without letting the small-town culture destroy their creative spirits and sense of self.



SIMON VS. THE HOMO SAPIENS AGENDA

Author: Becky Albertalli

Call Number: YA F ALBERTALLI

On the brink of coming out, Simon's plans are derailed by a scheming classmate who learns about Simon's email exchanges with a mysterious boy

that Simon may just be falling in love with.



2016



GABI, A GIRL IN PIECES

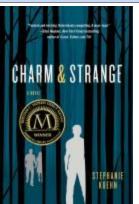
Author: Isabel Quintero

Call Number: UNIVERSITY HOLDINGS

Aspiring poet Gabi Hernandez is having a complicated senior year. One of her best friends is pregnant, and the other just came out. Even as her mother worries that she will become a "bad" girl, Gabi adds romance and the

quest for college to her already full plate.

2014



CHARM & STRANGE

Author: Stephanie Kuehn Call Number: YA F KUEHN

A lonely teenager exiled to a remote Vermont boarding school in the wake of a family tragedy must either surrender his sanity to the wild wolves inside his mind or learn that surviving means more than not dying.

2013



SERAPHINA

Author: Rachel Hartman

Call Number: YA SF HARTMAN

In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her, grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents.

JUNE BALLES

WHERE THINGS COME BACK

Author: John Corey Whaley

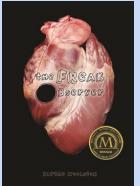
Call Number: UNIVERSITY HOLDINGS

Seventeen-year-old Cullen's summer in Lily, Arkansas, is marked by his cousin's death by overdose, an alleged spotting of a woodpecker thought to be extinct, failed romances, and his younger brother's sudden

disappearance.

2011

2012



THE FREAK OBSERVER

Author: Blythe Woolston

Call Number: <u>DOWNLOADABLE ON HOOPLA</u>

For eight years, Loa's world ran like one of those mechanical models of the solar system, with her baby sister, Asta, as the sun. Asta suffered from a genetic disorder that left her a permanent infant, and caring for her was Loa's life. Everything spun neatly and regularly as the whole family orbited around Asta. But now Asta's dead, and 16-year-old Loa's clockwork galaxy has

collapsed.

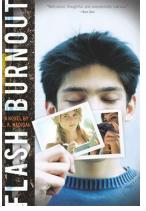
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Author: L.K. Madigan

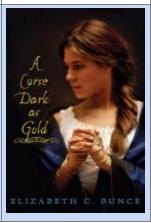
Call Number: <u>DOWNLOADABLE ON HOOPLA</u>

2010



Telephoto lens. Zoom. In a shutter release millisecond, Blake's world turns upside down. The nameless woman with the snake tattoo is not just another assignment. 'That's my mom!' gasps Marissa. Saturated self-portrait: Blake, nice guy, class clown, always trying to get a laugh, not sure where to focus. Contrast. Shannon, Blake's GF. Total. Babe. Marissa, just a friend and fellow photographer. Shannon loves him; Marissa needs him. How is he supposed to frame them both in one shot?

2009



A CURSE DARK AS GOLD

Author: Elizabeth C. Bunce

Call Number: UNIVERSITY HOLDINGS

The gold thread promises Charlotte Miller a chance to save her family's beloved woolen mill. It promises a future for her sister, jobs for her townsfolk, security against her grasping uncle -- maybe even true love. To get the thread, Charlotte must strike a bargain with its maker, the mysterious Jack Spinner. But the gleam of gold conjures a shadowy past -- secrets ensnaring generations of Millers.